



Rhode Island Department of Health
Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5094

www.health.ri.gov

Interim Health Advisory

Date: May 1, 2009

To: Rhode Islanders

From: Director of Health, David R. Gifford, MD, MPH

Re: Graduation & Swine Influenza (H1N1 Virus) in RI

Recommendations

- All graduation ceremonies should continue as planned. There are no recommendations to cancel any graduation ceremonies.
- If you are sick (fever and cough or sore throat), stay home and do not go to graduation ceremonies. Families and friends who are sick should not travel to attend graduation. People who live in affected areas can attend graduation if they are healthy.
- As families, students, faculties and staff come together, there will be many opportunities for physical contact – hand shakes, kisses and hugs. Avoid shaking hands or kissing.
- Clearly identify handwashing stations or hand sanitizer dispensers and encourage all attendees to use them.

Resources

- CDC Swine Influenza Site: <http://www.cdc.gov/influenza/swine>.
- Rhode Island Department of Health Swine Influenza Site: <http://www.health.ri.gov/pandemicinfluenza/swineinfluenza/swineinfluenza.php>
- WHO Swine Influenza Site: <http://www.who.int/en/>